

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SP-02 SS-15

NSC-05 /058 W

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P R 301542Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8410

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 7808

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, US, LI

SUBJ: CIVAIR - GOL REPLY TO USG OFFER TO CONSULT ON BILATERAL
TALKS

REF: A) STATE 235441, B) MONROVIA 7565 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING NOTE DATED DECEMBER 18, 1975, RECEIVED BY EMBASSY
DECEMBER 23:

QTE.....AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE LATTER'S NOTE NO. 310
OF OCTOBER 6, 1975, CONCERNING PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
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THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED

STATES OF AMERICAN TO NEGOTIATE A BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT AND INFORMING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WOULD BE PLEASED TO PROPOSE A TIMEFRAME AND VENUE FOR THE CONSULTATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THIS MINISTRY IS PLEASE TO ADVISE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA STANDS READY TO PEN MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATION AND CONCLUSION OF A BILATERAL AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT AND PROPOSES THAT THE VENUE AND TIME OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE MONROVIA NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 1976.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA WOULD APPRECIATE WERE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN TO STATE ITS REACTION IN THE PREMISES.
(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE). UNQTE.

2. EMBASSY'S OCTOBER 6 NOTE CONTAINED TEXT PROVIDED REF A, AND ADDED PARAGRAPH THAT IF QTE ABOVE PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIONS IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL BE PLEASED TO PROPOSE A TIMEFRAME AND VENUE FOR THE CONSULTATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE UNQTE.

3. COMMENT: TONE OF GOL NOTE INDICATES THAT GOL HAS MISREAD USG INTENTIONS AND EXPECTS FORTHCOMING TALKS TO END IN BILATERAL. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT ABOVE NOTE RECOGNIZES THAT USG WOULD PROPOSE VENUE/TIME FRAME AND THEN PROPOSES MONROVIA PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 15, EMBASSY FEELS THAT GOL MISREADING IS PURPOSEFUL, HOPING TO PUSH USG INTO BILATERAL TALKS. AIR LIBERIA PRESIDENT CONFIRMED YESTERDAY THAT HUGHES AIRWEST HAD GIVEN NOTICE (PARA 4, REF B) EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 7, OF TERMINATION AIRWEST MANAGEMENT CONTRACT UNLESS REVISIONS MADE IN CONTRACT TO AIRWEST LIKING. GOL HAS REQUESTED ONE MONTH EXTENSION THAT DEADLINE AND AIRWEST HAS AGREED. (FULL REPORT FOLLOWING SEPTTEL). SINCE RUMORS STILL FLYING OF BRITISH CALEDONIA INTEREST AIR LIBERIA, EMBASSY SUSPICIOUS THAT FEBRUARY DEADLINE MIGHT BE DESIGNED TO OBTAIN INFO ON USG INTENTIONS RE BILATERAL IN ORDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVALUATE BRITISH CALEDONIA PROPOSAL WHICH POSSIBLY INCLUDES BIG JETS, CAPABLE MAKING MONROVIANEW YORK FLIGHT. EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED TO CIVAIR AUTHORITIES THAT ANY CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE PRELIMINARY, AND YESTERDAY COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ATTEMPTED TO ELICIT FROM ASST. MIN. FOR TRANSPORTATION INDICATION OF IMPORTANCE GOL ATTACHED TO FEBRUARY DATE (INQUIRY COUCHED IN TERMS THAT THIS RATHER SHORT NOTICE). ASST. MIN. RESPONDED THAT

QTE THIS MATTER HAS BEEN PENDING FOR A LONG TIME UNQTE AND THAT THE GOL DID NOT AGREE WITH US POSITION THAT BILATERAL UNNECESSARY AND NOT IN TWO PARTIES' BEST INTEREST. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT HE REALIZED THAT THESE TALKS QTE MIGHT BE JUST PRELIMINARY UNQTE, BUT FELT THAT SUBJECT HAD TO BE DISCUSSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. EMBOFF DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION THAT GOL HAD TAKEN OVER TWO MONTHS TO RESPOND TO OUR OFFER TO CONSULT, BUT DID INDICATE THAT IT USUAL PRACTICE FOR REQUESTED PARTY SET TIME AND PLACE. THIS CONVERSATION WAS VERY INFORMAL AND MOVED ON TO OTHER SUBJECTS. END COMMENT.

4. EMBASSY WISHES RESPOND GOL NOTE ASAP AND REQUESTS GUIDANCE SOONEST.
BEAN

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